

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 7, 13 and 17 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,531,997 to Gates et al. ("Gates") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,612,758 to Evans ("Evans") and further in view of Japanese Patent No. JP 401086116A ("JP6116"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites an image display device that includes, *inter alia*, "a voltage applying component by which a voltage is applied . . . which triggers particle movement, and a voltage is applied . . . which is smaller than the potential difference which triggers particle movement, **thereby inhibiting a movement of particles at least one of towards and away from an electrode not selected to contribute to the image display.**"

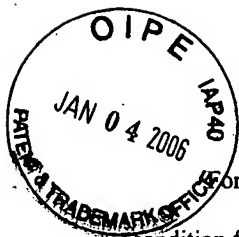
Support for this feature may be found throughout the original specification and drawings. For example, specific support may be found in the original specification and drawings at: Figure 4 and Figures 9-16 and the text descriptions thereof; equations 1-20 and the text descriptions thereof; paragraphs at page 6, line 11 through page 8, line 6; page 10, line 22 through page 11, line 16; page 22, line 17 through page 25, line 12; and page 29, line 16 through page 30, line 19.

Such an approach allows embodiments of the claimed invention to produce displays with finer features and hence higher resolution, as described throughout the original specification and drawings. For example, see the original specification at least at page 3, line 17 through page 4, line 11 and at page 8, lines 7-23, as well as the Figures and text within the original specification identified above.

As demonstrated in Fig. 4, exemplary embodiments of the claimed invention may include any number (e.g., B1-Bn) of display side electrodes and any number of rear side electrodes (e.g., A1-An), and may thereby produce high resolution displays with any number of pixels (i.e., at the respective overlapping intersections between the respective display side electrodes and the respective rear side electrodes). By "inhibiting a movement of particles" by placing a charge upon electrodes "not selected to contribute to the image display," as recited in claim 1, embodiments of the claimed invention are able to better control movement of particles within the display and to restrict movement of particles which would otherwise degrade the resolution of the display.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest "inhibiting a movement of particles" by placing a charge upon electrodes "not selected to contribute to the image display," as recited in claim 1.

For at least this reason, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the applied art. Independent claims 7, 13 and 17 include features similar to the feature described above with respect to claim 1 and are, therefore, patentably distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons addressed above with respect to claim 1. The remainder of the claims depend from independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 17 and are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.



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or at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:JMH

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